



Officer David Coomer, a former K mart employee, with two sons of employees Linda Dahl, Jeremy and Justin.

### K mart helps to launch child fingerprint program

In cooperation with the Eau Claire Police Department and the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Department, K mart 4051, Eau Claire, Wisconsin has helped to launch a pilot program in the state called Child Identification Program (CIP).

CIP provides the parents of children, ages two to 17, with a complete set of finger prints and palm prints, in the event the child is ever lost or abducted. This first of its kind project was held in Eau Claire this summer, with 4051 being the site for some of the printing. The police and sheriff's departments provided 4051 with five officers to print each child in ten hours. The parents of over 750 children were provided with a permanent record of identification for each child.

### K mart employee serves Naval Reserves

For the past 36 years, Jim Bragg, camera department manager for K mart 4161, Dallas, Texas, since its opening in 1966, has been doing double duty. After serving five and a half years on active duty with the U.S. Navy, mostly during World War II, he has been affiliated with the Naval Reserve from 1947 until 1983 when he transferred to the Retired Reserve.

At retirement, Bragg had reached the career level of a Chief Petty Officer, and had served in various areas of the Reserve program as a senior hospital corpsman, an instructor, and a career counselor

with most of those reserve years consisting of duty with various reserve units at the local reserve center and the Dallas Naval Air Station.

Mixed in with the Reserve duty and a civilian career with K mart, Bragg has also obtained a bachelor's degree in Speech and a Master's degree in Secondary education.

### Bed racers run in pajamas

There is no logical reason for a group of adults to run down the street in their pajamas and nightcaps, pulling a bed. Not unless they are competing in a bed race which five employees from K mart 4272, Bismarck, North Dakota were.

The first annual bed race was held during the Bismarck Folkfest recently and while the K mart team couldn't quite match the bed runners from a local investment company, they did manage to capture the bedpan award for the most unique design for their team.

Mark Warner, assistant manager; Steve Wald, sporting goods and automotive assistant; Bob McCabe, shoe manager and Dale Thomsen, sporting goods and automotive manager were decked out in white and blue striped shirts and pants (resembling pajamas) and bright red nightcaps with a bulging tassel on the end. K mart was written in big red and blue letters on the footboard of the bed and the bedspread was striped with red and white. Barb Behrendt rode on the bed wearing a blue nightgown and a motorcycle helmet. It was a combination that couldn't be missed!



K mart 4272, Bismarck, North Dakota employees from top left to right: Mark Warner, Bob McCabe, Barb Behrendt, Steve Wald, Dale Thomsen.

### This raccoon thinks he's anything BUT a raccoon

Rocky the raccoon likes Coca-Cola right out of the bottle and marshmallows are his favorite food. His owner, Ron Ennis, assistant manager K mart 7361, Kinston, North Carolina, says that Rocky is just like a cat—he doesn't come when he's called and refuses to take no for an answer.

Ennis has been searching for a baby raccoon for years and acquired this one just six months ago.

"A buddy of mine found a nest of baby raccoons where a dog had killed the mother. So he called me and I picked one up. My wife has been wanting one and we've been looking for five years. We got Rocky before his eyes were open and nursed him with a baby bottle. My labrador, Pilot, has never had puppies, but she treats Rocky like he is her own puppy. She lets Rocky get on her back and ride around like that for hours."

Whenever Ennis and his wife go anywhere in their pickup truck, they take Rocky and Pilot. Pilot rides obediently in the back of the truck, while Rocky hangs onto the outside mirror.

"He loves to ride on the mirror and won't ride inside of the truck. I hold onto his tail, for my own peace of mind, but he's never even come close to falling off."

Skunks used to be a popular wild animal pet, but they are prone to rabies, and like all wild animals, cannot be vaccinated against rabies. Rather than making the animal immune, it will make them more susceptible to the disease. However, raccoons may

receive all other immunizations commonly given to housepets, which makes them more desirable. Rocky has already had his shots.

This summer, Rocky learned to swim. "It wasn't really a natural instinct," Ennis says. "Rocky had to be taught to swim. He was really afraid of the water. So finally I put him in an empty pool and started filling it up with water, until it was full. Then he just had to swim. He had no choice!"

Rocky dives alongside Pilot and they are served the same entree—Purina Dog Chow. "I put some water in the dog food and Rocky just loves it. He's wild about his dog food."

As far as handling the raccoon, Ennis' wife seems to have better luck with Rocky than he does. "But I have more control over my dog, because it is a female and Rocky is a male. That's why my wife can handle Rocky better."

Ennis is currently looking for a female raccoon so that he can mate Rocky and raise more raccoons.

Pilot and Rocky.

